Message Text

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R 211600Z FEB 78 FM AMEMBASSY RABAT TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4600 INFO AMCONSUL TANGIER POUCH

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E. O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EINV, MO

SUBJ: LAND EXPROPRIATION CASES

REF: STATE 31272

- 1. IN CONVERSATION FEBRUARY 9, AMBASSADOR ASKED MFA DIRECTOR FOR AMERICAN AND EUROPEAN AFFAIRS BELKORA ABOUT CURRENT STATUS OF LAND CASES. BELKORA CONFIRMED THAT GOM (FINANCE MINISTRY) HAD SENT LETTERS TO PRIVATE CLAIMANTS IN MOROCCO IN MID-DECEMBER BUT NO REPLIES HAD THUS FAR BEEN RECEIVED. HE PROMISED TO PROVIDE EMBASSY WITH COPIES OF THE LETTERS AS SOON AS HE OBTAINED THEM FROM THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE.
- 2. BELKORA EXPLAINED THAT GOM HAD BEGUN WITH CLAIMANTS IN MOROCCO BECAUSE THEIR CASES APPEARED EASIER TO RESOLVE. ANOTHER FACTOR WAS THAT MOROCCANS DID NOT HAVE SIFFICIENT EXPERTS TO DEAL WITH ALL CASES AT ONCE. CERTAIN OTHER CLAIMANTS, SUCH AS BARONESS PELLENC, HAD PUT FORWARD "EXCESSIVE" DEMANDS WHICH HAD NO CHANCE OF BEING ACCEPTED, BELKORA STRESSED. PELLENC CLAIM ALONE, FOR EXAMPLE, AMOUNTED TO AS MUCH AS GOM HAD PAID FOR ALL BELGIAN CLAIMS. NEVERTHELESS BELKORA HAS SUBSEQUENTLY STATED HE WOULD RECOMMEND TO THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE THAT LETTERS BE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SENT TO ALL U.S. CLAIMANTS NO MATTER WHERE THEY ARE LOCATED.

3. COMMENT: WE WILL HOLD BELKORA TO HIS PROMISE OF FURNISHING COPIES OF THE GOM LETTERS AND ARE TRYING TO ASCERTAIN WHY CLAIMANTS HERE HAVE REPORTEDLY FAILED THUS FARE TO ANSWER THE GOM.

ANDERSON

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Message Attributes

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